



**U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 22, 2020

Contact: Office of Public Affairs
202-514-6551

Inmate Death at FCI Beaumont (Low)

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Tuesday, November 24, 2020, inmate Carl Merlo tested positive for COVID-19 at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Beaumont (Low) in Beaumont, Texas, and was immediately placed in medical isolation. On Saturday, November 28, 2020, Mr. Merlo was evaluated by institution medical staff for shortness of breath, and subsequently was transported to a local hospital for further treatment and evaluation. On Wednesday, December 2, 2020, his condition worsened and he was placed on a ventilator. On Monday, December 21, 2020, Mr. Merlo, who had long-term, pre-existing medical conditions, which the CDC lists as risk factors for developing more severe COVID-19 disease, was pronounced deceased by hospital staff.

Mr. Merlo was a 59-year-old male who was sentenced in the Western District of Arkansas to an 87-month sentence for Possession of Child Pornography. He had been in custody at FCI Beaumont (Low) since September 13, 2018.

FCI Beaumont (Low) is a low security facility that currently houses 1,331 male offenders.

The Bureau of Prisons will continue to provide daily updates and information on actions related to COVID-19 at www.bop.gov/coronavirus/index.jsp.

Additional information about the Bureau of Prisons can be found at www.bop.gov.

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